

REC-15

62-101944

2 November 30, 1964 or 27, 1964

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FBI
RECEIVING ROOM

Honorable Martin Dies, Sr.
Attorney at Law
114 West Shepherd
Tulsa, Texas

Dear Mr. Dies:

I have received your letter of November 19th, and your kind comments and staunch support of my efforts are certainly appreciated. It is my hope that our future endeavors will continue to merit such approbation.

Enclosed is a copy of my recent speech which I trust you will find of interest.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

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Enclosure

Director's speech, 11/24/64, "Time for Decision"

NOTE: Bufiles contain no derogatory information regarding correspondent who was the former head of the Dies Committee.

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MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch.

, 19__

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☐ Attention _____
☐ Return to _____ Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject Martin Dies Sr.
 Birthdate & Place _____
 Address _____

Localities _____

R# _____ Date 1/2 Searcher Initials _____
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	FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
I-U	63-10176-U	
✓	74114 MF	
I-K	76-215-1	
ND	61-7583	
ND	61-7583	
NR	15-7145	
NR	41-10117	

app, 700 Dies not listed

Head of Dies Comm.
Nothing serog.

MARTIN DIES, SR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW
114 WEST SHEPHERD
LUFKIN, TEXAS

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

November 23, 1965

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The purpose of this letter is to request your advice about a matter and not to obtain any official ruling, because none is required. A number of foundations, such as Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge, the McArthur Academy of Freedom, etc., as well as colleges and universities, like Texas University, A&M College, and others have been urging me to donate to them all of my papers covering my service of twenty years in Congress, and particularly the seven years that I was chairman of the special Committee on Unamerican Activities. I am preparing to remove all this material from boxes and trunks and to index and catalog it so that when I decide which college or foundation should receive it, I can send it to them. I am sure you must know that much of my papers deal with Nazi, Fascist, Communist and Japanese activities preceding and during World War II. Some of this material was at one time considered classified information, but I would not think that after this lapse of time this situation would still be true.

I am planning to employ Mrs. Richard B. Cravy who lives in this county. I have made a number of inquiries from reliable and trustworthy people regarding her character, and she has been highly recommended to me by those who know her and who have worked with her. However, before turning all of these documents and files over to some institution, I did want your advice as to whether there could be any objection from a security standpoint.

I have not examined these files and records for twenty years, and I really don't know what all is contained in the boxes and trunks that were shipped to me by my aides, but any material which I may have that your Department does

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TEXAS

REC-40

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CORP

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ack. let to Hon Martin Dies Sr.
11-30-65

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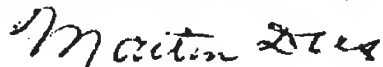
Hon. J. Edgar Hoover
November 23, 1965
Page 2

not have, I will be glad to make copies for your records.

I have been planning to do this, but I put it off, very much like the average person postpones making a will or buying a burial lot. Now that I have passed my sixty-fifth birthday, I feel I ought to organize this material and place it where it can be of value to those who want to study that period of our history.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martin Dies".

Martin Dies, Sr.

MDSr:mm

REC-40

November 30, 1965

62-10741-3
Honorable Martin Dies, Sr.
Attorney at Law
114 West Shepherd
Lufkin, Texas

EX 139

Dear Mr. Dies:

I have received your letter of November 23, 1965,
and appreciate the interest which prompted you to write.

You are most generous to consider offering your
papers to a Foundation or school for future use by scholars. It is
difficult, of course, to comment on the security aspects of material
in your files; however, if during your review, you find a document
which you feel might still be classified, please feel free to contact
me.

For your information, Freedoms Foundation in
Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, recently established a J. Edgar Hoover
Library. This Library is currently interested in securing docu-
ments and papers dealing with communist strategy and tactics in the
United States. It is the hope of Freedoms Foundation that this
Library will serve as a research center in future years for the
study of this alien ideology.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: See M. A. Jones to DeLoach Memo dated 11-30-65, captioned
"Martin Dies, Sr., Former Congressman from Texas, Lufkin, Texas."

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 11-30-65

FROM : M. A. Jones

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SUBJECT: MARTIN DIES, SR.
FORMER CONGRESSMAN FROM TEXAS
- LUFKIN, TEXAS

BACKGROUND:

The Director, under date of November 23, 1965, has received a letter from the above captioned individual. Dies states that a number of Foundations, such as Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge and the McArthur Academy of Freedom as well as certain colleges (Texas University, Texas A & M College), are urging him to donate his papers covering his 20 years service in Congress, particularly the seven years when he served as Chairman of the special Committee on Un-American Activities. Dies states that he is preparing to remove this material from boxes and trunks and to index and catalogue it so that when he decides where he will place it, everything will be ready. Many of the papers, according to Dies, deal with Nazi, Fascist, Communist, and Japanese activities during World War II. Some of the material was at one time classified, but Dies feels that after the lapse of time this situation probably isn't still true.

Dies adds that he is planning to employ a Mrs. Richard B. Cravy to work with his papers. Dies comments that, before turning these documents over to some institution, he wanted the Director's advise if there would be any objection from a security standpoint. Dies has not seen this data for many years but if the Bureau would like copies, he would be glad to furnish them.

OBSERVATIONS:

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Dies, as you know, for many years was extremely prominent as a Congressman in the investigation of subversive activities. Bufiles contain no derogatory information concerning him. Moreover, Mrs. Richard B. Cravy is unidentifiable in Bufiles. [REDACTED] b7C

It is felt that the Director should diplomatically make mention to Mr. Dies of the J. Edgar Hoover Library at Freedom's Foundation at Valley Forge. The plans of the J. Edgar Hoover Library call for the acquisition of all possible papers, documents etc., on communism, especially in the early years of the communist movement. If the J. Edgar Hoover Library could secure the papers of Mr. Dies, it would be most helpful to the Library. We know, for example, that

1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosure sent 12-1-65

(Continued on next page)

M. A. Jones to DeLoach Memo
RE: Martin Dies, Sr.

the Library is interested in this kind of data. In addition to calling Dies attention to the J. Edgar Hoover Library, we should not offer to try to evaluate his papers from a security point of view but that if he has any question concerning a particular document, he should be in touch with us.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached letter be sent to Mr. Dies.

SLP/OK
ad V P

MARTIN DIES, SR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW
114 WEST SHEPHERD
LUFKIN, TEXAS

Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

December 6, 1965

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I appreciate very much your prompt reply to my letter.

I read in the paper that you plan to retire. While you richly deserve retirement, it will be a very great loss to this country. You have been a most courageous, dedicated and patriotic public servant throughout the years. You have kept the Federal Bureau of Investigation independent of partisan politics, and I fear that when you leave, it will become a political agency. I hope that I am wrong, because under your leadership it has become a very great instrumentality for the protection of our free institutions.

You have been one of the few men in Washington who has appreciated the gravity of the communist menace. I am delighted to know that there will be a room at Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge to preserve your papers. Several senators have telephoned me about depositing my records and files there, and I have been giving the matter very serious consideration. However, I have a very difficult task to catalog, index and arrange this material so that it can be used by students and historians. In 1938 we seized a vast amount of records under subpoena and, of course, much of this information came to me in strict confidence and with the understanding that it would not be used for many years. I think that I have information that could not be obtained from any other source, and I want it deposited where it will not be destroyed or altered

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Morrell to DeLoach Memo

12-17-65

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Hon. J. Edgar Hoover
December 6, 1965
Page 2

- and where students and historians can use it.

Again, expressing to you my great admiration and appreciation for all that you have done for our great country, I am

Sincerely yours,

Martin Dies

Martin Dies, Sr.

MDSr:mm

REC-109

December 17, 1965

62-101944-5

Honorable Martin Dies, Sr.
Attorney at Law
114 West Shepherd
Lufkin, Texas

Dear Mr. Dies:

Thank you for your letter of December 6th and for your confidence in my administration of the FBI. Your generous remarks mean a great deal to me, and it is hoped my future endeavors will continue to merit such approbation. You may be interested in knowing that it is my desire to remain as Director as long as I may be of service to our Nation.

Your consideration of using the J. Edgar Hoover Library of the Freedoms Foundation in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, as a repository for your records and files is indeed appreciated. Should you have any further questions, you may wish to communicate directly with Dr. Kenneth D. Wells, President, Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania 19481, or Mr. Louis B. Nichols, 1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10019, who is associated with the Library bearing my name.

In this regard, the FBI, of course, cannot be responsible for confidential or classified material that you have not can the Freedoms Foundation or the Library. As you may realize, the Library is open to all and the records and information therein are on full view for those who use it. Should specific provisions be required to handle your material, naturally, you can arrange them with the Freedoms Foundation.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

SENT DIRECTOR
FOR APPROVAL

12-17-65

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DeLoach
Mohr
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Wick
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

53 Dallas Enclosure

Mr. DeLoach

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See NOTE next page.

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Honorable Martin Dies, Sr.

NOTE: See Morrell to DeLoach memo dated 12-17-65 captioned "Interest expressed by Honorable Martin Dies for possible use of J. Edgar Hoover Library, Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, as a repository for Dies' records."

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 12-17-65

FROM : D. C. Morrell *sem/gan*

SUBJECT: INTEREST EXPRESSED BY HONORABLE MARTIN DIES
FOR POSSIBLE USE OF J. EDGAR HOOVER LIBRARY,
FREEDOMS FOUNDATION, VALLEY FORGE,
PENNSYLVANIA, AS A REPOSITORY FOR DIES' RECORDS

BACKGROUND:

By letter 11-23-65 Dies, head of the Committee which gained reputation as the "Dies Committee" for combating communism and threats to this country, expressed the general intention of finding a suitable location to place his personal records and those of the Committee bearing his name for future generations to see. He mentioned he was aware of the fact that a Library bearing Mr. Hoover's name was located at the Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, and thought this was an excellent idea. Jones to DeLoach memo 11-30-65 explored the factors involved and outgoing 11-30-65 to Dies conveyed a general expression that perhaps the J. Edgar Hoover Library would be a logical repository.

CURRENT DEVELOPMENT:

By letter dated 12-6-65, Dies expressed sincere praise for Mr. Hoover's public service and appeared to be interested in utilizing the J. Edgar Hoover Library; however, he said he was withholding a final decision.

OBSERVATIONS:

While there is no doubt that some of the material and papers contained in Dies' collection could be misinterpreted or assigned the term as being "controversial," it is felt that it would be an excellent idea to have his papers included in the J. Edgar Hoover Library for the following reasons:

Enclosure *sent*

- 1 - Mr. Tolson - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosure

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SENT DIRECTOR
FOR APPROVAL
12-17-65

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DATE 8-22-80 BY 10-2 TAP/KR

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RECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-101944-6

Morrell to DeLoach Memo

RE: INTEREST EXPRESSED BY HONORABLE MARTIN DIES

1. The work of the Committee bearing Dies' name is a significant segment of a phase of American history as it pertains to the internal security of our Nation. Whether all the material contained therein is factual or not, this has little bearing as Dies' efforts were an important part of American history. Therefore, his records and papers should be recorded for all to see.

2. The Library itself does not vouch for the accuracy or truth of the material contained therein. The Library is merely a repository for documents of history and while there are some individuals who may always want to misuse information/records, it is not the function of a library to exclude or authenticate information, nor can the FBI be responsible for the protection of any classified material deposited.

3. As a research center, the J. Edgar Hoover Library should present both pro and con arguments about communism and anticommunism and, therefore, records of this important Committee would be an invaluable adjunct to the broad spectrum of knowledge about communism.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached letter be sent to Dies politely and tactfully indicating to him that perhaps the J. Edgar Hoover Library at Freedoms Foundation would be an excellent location to place his papers.

(Handwritten initials and signatures)

Martin Dies, Pioneer in House Probes, Dead at 72

LUFKIN, Tex., Nov. 14 (UPI) — Martin Dies Sr., founder of the House Un-American Activities Committee and a controversial Texas congressman for three decades, died tonight, apparently of a heart attack. He was 72.

Rep. Dies was first elected to Congress in 1930 from Orange, Tex., but it was not until the late 1930s and early 1940s for his work on the

"Dies Committee," looking into the activities of subversive groups, that he became a national figure.

Under his leadership, HUAC first investigated German-American Bund groups and Fascists and then turned to communism.

He introduced a bill to stop immigration for an indefinite period and once demanded

that 6 million aliens be deported to solve unemployment in the 1930s. He claimed credit for the indictment of American Communist leader Earl Browder in 1940.

His work brought criticism from President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who said the Dies Committee had made "absurdly false" charges that Communists had inspired auto workers strikes and that the com-

mittee had a list of 500 governmental employees belonging to an organization the committee said was communist.

Rep. Dies, born Nov. 3, 1901, in Colorado City, Tex., was elected in 1930 to the seat his father represented from 1909 to 1919.

In 1941, he ran for the Senate in a special Texas primary, but finished fourth. He

retired to private practice in Lufkin in 1945, but was re-elected to the House as a Texas delegate-at-large in 1952. He again retired in 1958.

But his anticommunism did not decrease. He said in 1963 that Moscow might have directed the assassination of President Kennedy.

Rep. Dies is survived by a son, Jack, who is now a state judge in Texas.

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Marshall _____
Miller, E.S. _____
Purvis _____
Soyars _____
Walters _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Kinley _____
Mr. Armstrong _____
Ms. Herwig _____
Mrs. Neenan _____

The Washington Post Times Herald B-14
The Evening Star (Washington) _____
The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
Daily News (New York) _____
Sunday News (New York) _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times _____
The Daily World _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____

NOV 15 1972

Date

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72 NOV 15 1972

Martin Dies, Flamboyant Prober,

Dead

By Jean R. Halley

Washington Post Staff Writer

Former Rep. Martin Dies Sr., flamboyant hunter of subversives and founder of the House Un-American Activities Committee, died Monday after an apparent heart attack in Lufkin, Tex. He was 71.

The spellbinding oratory of the congressman, who was a master of red-baiting long before the McCarthy era, brought him into national prominence during the late 1930s.

He took on high government officials, the powerful CIO and anybody else he thought was posing a threat to the United States during his first 13 years in the House.

Rep. Dies voluntarily retired in 1944 because of what he termed ill health but came back to the House in 1952 "to help finish the job of housecleaning which I helped to start in 1938."

But the headlines that he had triggered during his earlier terms failed to materialize. In 1957, while still a House member, he ran unsuccessfully in a special election for the Senate seat vacated by the resignation of Price Daniel, who became governor of Texas. Rep. Dies retired a second time in 1958.

The Un-American Activities Committee, now the House Internal Security Committee, was known popularly as the "Dies Committee" after it was organized in 1938.

It first went after the German-American Bund and Fascist groups, then took on alleged Communists, sending subcommittees all over the country.

Government employees were predominant among its targets. Dies and his Committee soon found themselves under heavy criticism from top officials, including

President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The President branded as "sordid procedure" the Committee's publication of the names of more than 500 government employees on the "membership and mailing" list of an organization the Committee said was a front for Communist activity.

Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes charged Dies with being "irresponsible" and Wendell L. Willkie accused him of "undermining democratic procedure."

In defense of his own methods, Dies countered

"America is a free country and I would defend with my life the rights of its citizens, but when they take the oath of allegiance and then seek to undermine the government, I say what amendments to our Constitution protect these spies and agents of the foreign governments?"

He introduced bills that would have stopped all im-

migration into this d for an indefinite tm would have deported a desirable aliens already here.

"If we don't sit down and find out how strong these alien forces are, they may take us by surprise and destroy the form of government the United States has always had," he declared.

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Walters _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Kinley _____
Mr. Armstrong _____
Ms. Herwig _____
Mrs. Neenan _____

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The Washington Post Times Herald *C-4* _____
The Evening Star (Washington) _____
The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
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The New York Times _____
The Daily World _____
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The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____

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Despite the criticism of officialdom, Rep. Dies had a popular following.

In 1940, he published a

book, "The Trojan Horse in Government," in which he charged that "Communist Trojan Horses" — organizations that he said always denied Communist control — were bidding for American youth, the unemployed and black people by inviting distinguished American citizens to address them.

He included the "First Lady of the Land," Cabinet officers and other officials as contributing to the Communist interests in this way.

He made hundreds of speeches in the style of a fire-eating, fear-spreading evangelist. At 6-foot-3 and 210 pounds, he made his loud, ranting deliveries spectacular.

He had a sense of the dramatic. At one time he charged that one of his sons had been endangered by enemy agents who intended "either to kill or kidnap him" but he refused to elaborate on the claim.

In 1950, between his two sets of terms in Congress, Rep. Dies claimed he had been "vindicated by the events" of the previous 10 years.

"When I warned, a decade ago, of Communists in our government, I was called a witch hunter. When I said, in the days of Hitler and Mussolini, that Russia would turn out to be the real world menace, my views were regarded as fantastic.

"Well, I have been vindicated. But I feel no satisfaction. I wish I had been wrong," he said in an interview.

Rep. Dies was born in Col-
orado City, Tex. He spent his early years in Wash-
ington, where his father, also named Martin, was a con-
gressman from 1909 to 1919. After attending the Univer-
sity of Texas, the younger Dies got a law degree from National University here.

He practiced law in Mar-
shall and Orange, Tex., be-
fore his first period in the
House, and resumed a law
practice in Lufkin between
his terms and after his sec-
ond retirement as a con-
gressman.

Since then he had re-
mained essentially out of
public view although he oc-
casionally was called on to
address patriotic meetings.

He is survived by his wife,
Myrtle Dies, and three sons,
Martin Dies Jr., of Beau-
mont, Tex., and Robert M.
and Jack Dies, of Lufkin.



Rep. Martin Dies is pictured in 1940 as chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



JPHa:DCW

Broadcast: 9:00 p.m.

Dictated: 10:45 p.m.

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.**

August 1, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST,
August 1, 1943

Mr. Tolson ☒
Mr. E.A. Tamm ☒
Mr. Clegg ☒
Mr. Glavin ☒
Mr. Ladd ☒
Mr. Nichols ☒
Mr. Rosen ☒
Mr. Tracy ☒
Mr. Carson ☒
Mr. Coffey ☒
Mr. Hendon ☒
Mr. Holloman ☒
Mr. McGuire ☒
Mr. Quinn Tamm ☒
Mr. Harbo ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Mr. Nease ☒
Miss Beahm ☒
Miss Gandy ☒

The following comments concerning matters apparently of interest to the Bureau were made by Mr. Winchell during the course of his broadcast on this date:

I. MATTERS PERTAINING TO COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES

A. Reported instructions by Communist Party officials to membership concerning interviews by Bureau Agents

Mr. Winchell stated: "New York. In case John Edgar Hoover hasn't heard about it yet, this is for the FBI. The Communists have a new line of attack against G-men. In a recent letter, high Party Communistic officials state that the Supreme Court legalized the Communist Party in preserving the citizenship of William Schneidman of the West Coast. Party members have been ordered not to answer questions of G-men, and whenever a G-man asks a suspected Communist any question, that member is to report the G-man to Party headquarters."

The Omaha Field Office recently advised the Bureau that under date of June 25, 1943 the Secretary of the 32nd District of the Communist Party, covering the States of Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas, suggested to the Party membership in that area in the form of a mimeographed letter that in the event they were approached by Bureau Agents desirous of interviewing them, they should inform the Agents that the Party has been legalized by the Schneidman decision, that the Agents should busy themselves with contributing toward winning the war "as the Communist Party is doing" and should extract detailed information from the Agents as to their names, credential numbers, addresses, etc. It was further suggested to the membership that the questions asked should not be answered, that requests should be made for representation by counsel and that any attempts at interviews should be immediately reported to Party headquarters. The receipt of this information was made available to the Field under date of July 28, 1943 in the form of a letter addressed to all Special Agents in Charge. In this letter it was pointed out that this situation will not alter the Bureau's practice of having Agents properly identify themselves when the circumstances so dictate in the usual way in connection with their official investigations. However, in connection with the



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Party's instruction to the membership that detailed information should be secured from Agents as to their status, credential numbers, et cetera, it was further pointed out that this function can and should be accomplished without any ostentatious or unusual exhibitions of credentials or badges. Specific instructions were set forth that under no circumstances should credentials or badges be allowed out of the Agents' possession at any time during such interviews. It was further stressed that during the course of any interviews of this type Agents should be very circumspect and should be always mindful of the fact that they are conducting the interviews and are not being interviewed.

B. Activity within the American Labor Party

Mr. Winchell commented: "Another war has been declared between the Left and the Right Wings of the American Labor Party. Scandalous charges will be made alleging that union leaders are conspiring against Soviet Russia. The explosion will be heard on Tuesday next."

The Bureau is aware that for a considerable period of time there has been a definite clash between the Right and Left elements within the American Labor Party. The Leftist faction is controlled by the Communist Party and represents the expression of Communist ideals and purposes within the American Labor Party. The Right element, on the other hand, is under the influence of Socialists and Social Democrats. The Leftist element has been attempting to gain complete control of the American Labor Party and on practically all questions of a controversial nature, the Right and Left elements are in strong conflict. One representation of this is to be found in the reaction to the Russian Government's recent execution of Alter and Ehrlich, Polish leaders. The Right element within the American Labor Party severely condemned the Soviet for this action, while the Leftists defended the action with equal vigor. The Bureau is not aware of any specific outbreak of difference of opinion scheduled between these two groups within the near future, but it would appear that the comments set forth above, if of substance, may have reference to the continuation of the disputes and differences between these two factions within the American Labor Party.

II. SEDITION MATTERS

A. Gerald L. K. Smith

Mr. Winchell remarked: "Buffalo, New York. A few weeks ago I reported the rabble rousing of 'wackpot' Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit at a meeting in Buffalo, in which he reportedly trampled on an American flag and then spat upon it. The fighting mad Erie County Post of the American Legion there in Buffalo unanimously passed a resolution to ask the Department of Justice to take action against Gerald L. K. Smith. How about giving him a bath."

This remark has reference to a speech given by Smith at Buffalo, New York approximately six weeks ago. During his speech Smith, in an endeavor to dramatize his dislike for any idea of "world union" or combination of government between Great Britain and the United States, displayed a flag which, he stated, represented the proposed flag to be used as a representation of Anglo-American unity under one government. This flag was not the American flag, as stated by Mr. Winchell, but was a makeshift affair, purportedly a copy of a proposed flag which has been suggested by those persons who advocate "world union." The Erie County Post of the American Legion, as well as one of the newspapers in Buffalo, claimed that the flag or replica used by Smith was actually the flag of St. George, which in colonial days was used by the Continental Armies prior to the adoption of the present American flag. A copy of its resolution was forwarded to the Bureau by the Erie County Post of the American Legion, in view of the allegations set forth, the matter was referred to the Criminal Division of the Department, as in the case of all pertinent information which is received concerning Gerald L. K. Smith. The Department indicated that Smith's activities in this regard do not justify prosecution, and it would appear that there is little doubt as to the correctness of this opinion, inasmuch as the flag reportedly desecrated by Smith was not the currently adopted American flag. Furthermore, the Department has advised that under Federal statutes it is not a violation to desecrate even the American flag unless the desecration takes place within the District of Columbia.

B. Joseph E. McWilliams

Mr. Winchell stated: "Chicago. Last Sunday night your newsboy gave wider circulation to the stories from the "Chicago Sun" and New York's "PM" regarding Joe McWilliams, the Hitler rooter, getting a job that gave him entry to industrial plants which have war and Naval contracts. Apparently your protests did the trick. I am now told that Joe McWilliams' new employer, the George S. May Company, has discharged him. If you want to know more about Joe McWilliams and others over here who marched in the Hitler parade, read the new best seller "Under Cover" and then shudder with revulsion."

During a subsequent portion of his broadcast, Mr. Winchell gave expression to the following additional remarks concerning McWilliams.

"New York City. Tomorrow's "PM" will carry the complete story on the ousting of Joe McNazi from his job with the George S. May Company. McWilliams is quoted as saying, get this, McWilliams is quoted as telling the "PM" reporters that he lost his job because of the intolerant forces working against him. Ha, Ha, Ha! Kindly omit flowers."

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III. TREASON MATTERS

A. Recent indictment of eight individuals broadcasting from Axis territory

Concerning these cases, Mr. Winchell made the following observation: "Washington. I was among those who were not impressed by the report last week that several Americans broadcasting to the Axis in Germany and Italy were indicted for treason, even though the penalty when and if captured is death, not while so many of their echoes over here in high places and low are allowed to go on getting away with practically the same murder. My only interest in those indicted abroad is to tell you this. On these broadcasts, ladies and gentlemen, came the very first mention of the activities of half of those traitors. Their names are: Jane Anderson, Constance Drexel, Otto Louischwitz and Fred Kaltenbach. All four traitors were first struck by this reporter's spotlighting in 1936."

You will recall that the four individuals mentioned are among the eight persons who were indicted for treason in the District of Columbia on July 26 last. Although Mr. Winchell has from time to time during recent year made reference to the four persons mentioned in his broadcasts, it is of interest to note that the treasonable activities of these persons, that is, their broadcasts from Axis territory, did not commence until 1940.

Later in this broadcast Mr. Winchell made the following remark concerning Robert Best, one of the eight persons indicted for treason: "Lisbon. Robert Best, one of the eight American traitors indicted for treason by the United States, has reacted to the indictment on a short-wave broadcast from Berlin. He was indicted, he said, because Roosevelt is trying to keep him, Best, from running for the Presidency in 1944."

It is known to the Bureau that during the summer of 1942 Best announced his candidacy for the Presidency of the United States in 1944. The Bureau has not previously been informed, however, that since his indictment Best has claimed that the indictment against him was predicated on a desire to keep him, Best, from seeking the Presidency.

B. Treason case concerning Mrs. Henry Topping

Mr. Winchell stated: "Mrs. Henry ~~X~~Topping, mentioned by me recently as the American traitor broadcasting from Tokyo, was positively identified by our State Department. She is the widow of a missionary. She is eighty years old, 80 years old."

During the course of his broadcast July 18 last, Mr. Winchell made reference to this individual, stating that she is engaged in treasonable activities in connection with propaganda broadcasts from Tokyo. The Bureau's files reflect no information which can be identified with this individual, and accordingly the State Department has been requested to furnish all data in its possession concerning her. This matter is being followed very closely, and as soon as information is received from the State Department, appropriate investigation will be instituted to determine whether she is engaged in treasonable activities.

IV. MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST TO THE BUREAU

During one portion of his broadcast, Mr. Winchell spent considerable time in analyzing the general progress of the war. As a phase of these remarks he commented that the ordinary persons, in contrast to the leaders of the Government, are ultimately responsible for the well-being of world conditions and are themselves the ones who must bear the brunt and hardships of warfare. In extending these remarks, he stated that the people of America should make certain in the future that intolerance is not permitted and that America is ridded of all "anti-democratic forces." His closing statement to this effect was that world peace begins at home and that the people themselves must be responsible for eliminating intolerance and other anti-democratic factors which cause disruption. Although he talked at length on the subject, Mr. Winchell did not mention any names and apparently was editorializing on the necessity of democracies being well educated and careful to eliminate anti-democratic factors which foment and cause trouble. In concluding his broadcast Mr. Winchell stated that he would be on vacation for the next four weeks and will not return to the air until the first Sunday in September. During this interim his broadcasts are to be taken over by three news commentators, Ful Ousler, Robert St. John and Louella Parsons.

Respectfully,

J. P. Hanratty
J. P. Hanratty